

## Bat Mitzvah Speech Ashlee Pittaway 28-05-2011

Good morning family and friends and Kohenet Belinda Silbert. We are here today to celebrate me becoming a young Jewish woman and what it means to me. It means to be with G-d, it is not about only Torah learning and Shul attending, it is to me being G-dly.

Being G-dly is to be kind, loving, caring, compassionate, patient, healthy, wise, trustworthy and reliable. It also means caring for the people who can't care for themselves.

Celebrating Jewish Life in a practical but spiritual way that has deeper meaning to me. Being Jewish, I have a love of learning Hebrew and about Jewish life. I love being part of everything from growing up to being a proper Jewish Young Lady who can make a difference in life.

My Hebrew name is Shoshana and this means Lily or Rose. All Hebrew names are important because they connect with the earth and G-d. Having a Hebrew name is important to me as it brings me peace and I feel much more I touch with the earth and when I hear my name in Hebrew it makes me think of flowers blossoming and blue skies.

To me being human can be somewhat embarrassing because of what we are doing to mother earth. Being human means overcoming difficulties and having responsibilities in life where I can be independent and self reliant. I want to have goals in life because if one has goals I can visualise a positive life.

I want to thank all those family and friends from near and far to be with me on this special day. I want to thank Grandpa QP for providing the venue at his beautiful home in this beautiful garden. I want to thank Kohenet Belinda Silbert for officiating the service. It is very special to me.

I would like to thank my Mother - Liat – for putting this divine ceremony together to enable me to experience this. I would like to thank my Granparents Nana and Grandpa QP and Liat for sponsoring this wonderful event.

Written By Ashlee Pittaway 2011